

Exchange With Reporters at the Jefferson Memorial July 2, 2001

Fourth of July

Q. What's the occasion, Mr. President?

The President. Just wanted to come over. We're looking right out our window every day at the Jefferson. It's a beautiful day—wanted to come over and begin the beginning of the Fourth of July celebration here at the Jefferson Memorial. It's a good opportunity to say hello to some of our fellow Americans.

Q. What does the Fourth mean to you, Mr. President?

The President. Well, it's an unimaginable honor to be the President, during the Fourth of July, of this country. It means what these words say, for starters, the great inalienable rights of our country. We're blessed with such values in America. And

I—it's—I'm a proud man to be the—the Nation based upon such wonderful values. I can't tell you what it was like to be in Europe, for example, to be talking about the greatness of America.

But the true greatness of America are the people. And it's another reason we're here, is to be able to say hello to some of our fellow Americans. And we're here to celebrate. It's good to see everybody.

John [John Berman, ABC News], when are you getting married?

Q. Three weeks, sir.

NOTE: The exchange began at 3:40 p.m. in the rotunda of the memorial. A portion of this exchange could not be verified because the tape was incomplete.

Letter to Congressional Leaders Transmitting a Report on the Extension of Normal Trade Relations Status With Belarus July 2, 2001

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)

I hereby transmit the report referred to in subsection 402(c)(2) of the Trade Act of 1974, with respect to a waiver of the application of subsections 402(a) and (b) of that Act to the Republic of Belarus.

I have determined that such a waiver will substantially promote the objectives of section 402, and I have instructed the Secretary of State to provide a copy of that determination to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and President of the Senate. The report also indicates that I have received the assurances with respect

to the emigration practices of the Republic of Belarus required by section 402(c)(2)(B) of the Act.

Sincerely,

GEORGE W. BUSH

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Richard B. Cheney, President of the Senate. The related Executive order and memorandum of July 2 are listed in Appendix D at the end of this volume.